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Attorney Docket No. 016907-1567

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Kazuhiko KIKUCHI
Title: FIXING APPARATUS
Appl. No.: 10/602,920
Filing Date: June 25, 2003
Examiner: Q. M. GRAINGER
Art Unit: 2852

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

The examiner's statement of reasons for allowance in the Notice of Allowability mailed October 6, 2004 is as follows in pertinent part:

The claims are allowable over the prior art of record because the prior art of record does not teach . . . L represents an inner diameter of the heat roller.

Insofar as the reasons for allowance suggests that "L represents an inner diameter of the heat roller", applicant respectfully disagrees. L as recited in the claims represents "an inductance of the excitation roller" not "an inner diameter of the heat roller." The claims are nevertheless allowable over the prior art of record.

Respectfully submitted,

Date December 23, 2004

By Thomas G. Bilodeau

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